GARLAND CREOSOTING TEXAS

EPA ID# TXD007330053
Site ID: 0601644
EPA REGION 6
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 4
Gregg County

Fact Sheet Updated: September 17, 2004

Site Description

Location:
- The Garland Creosote Site is located at 3915 Garland Road in the City of Longview, Gregg County, Texas.

Population:
- An estimated 116 people live within one mile of the Site.

Setting:
- The site, which was used for manufacturing creosote-treated wood products covers approximately 12 acres.
- Boundaries for the site include an industrial facility to the north, Garland Road to the east, an unnamed intermittent creek to the south, and Texas State Highway 149 and undeveloped property to the west.
- Industrial, commercial, agricultural, residential and undeveloped woodland properties are within a mile of the site.
- An intermittent creek which flows through the southwestern corner of the site runs downstream approximately 1/3 mile where it meets Iron Bridge Creek. Approximately 1 3/4 miles downstream from its confluence with the intermittent creek, Iron Bridge Creek flows into the Sabine River.

Wastes and Volumes

- Prior to 1985, wood preserving wastewater generated by the Garland Creosoting facility was treated and discharged to five surface impoundments for evaporation. The creosoting process produced creosote waste which is a listed hazardous waste. Therefore, the bottom sludges created in the surface impoundments are classified as hazardous waste. A sixth impoundment was used for containment in the event of a spill from the process area or wastewater treatment plant.

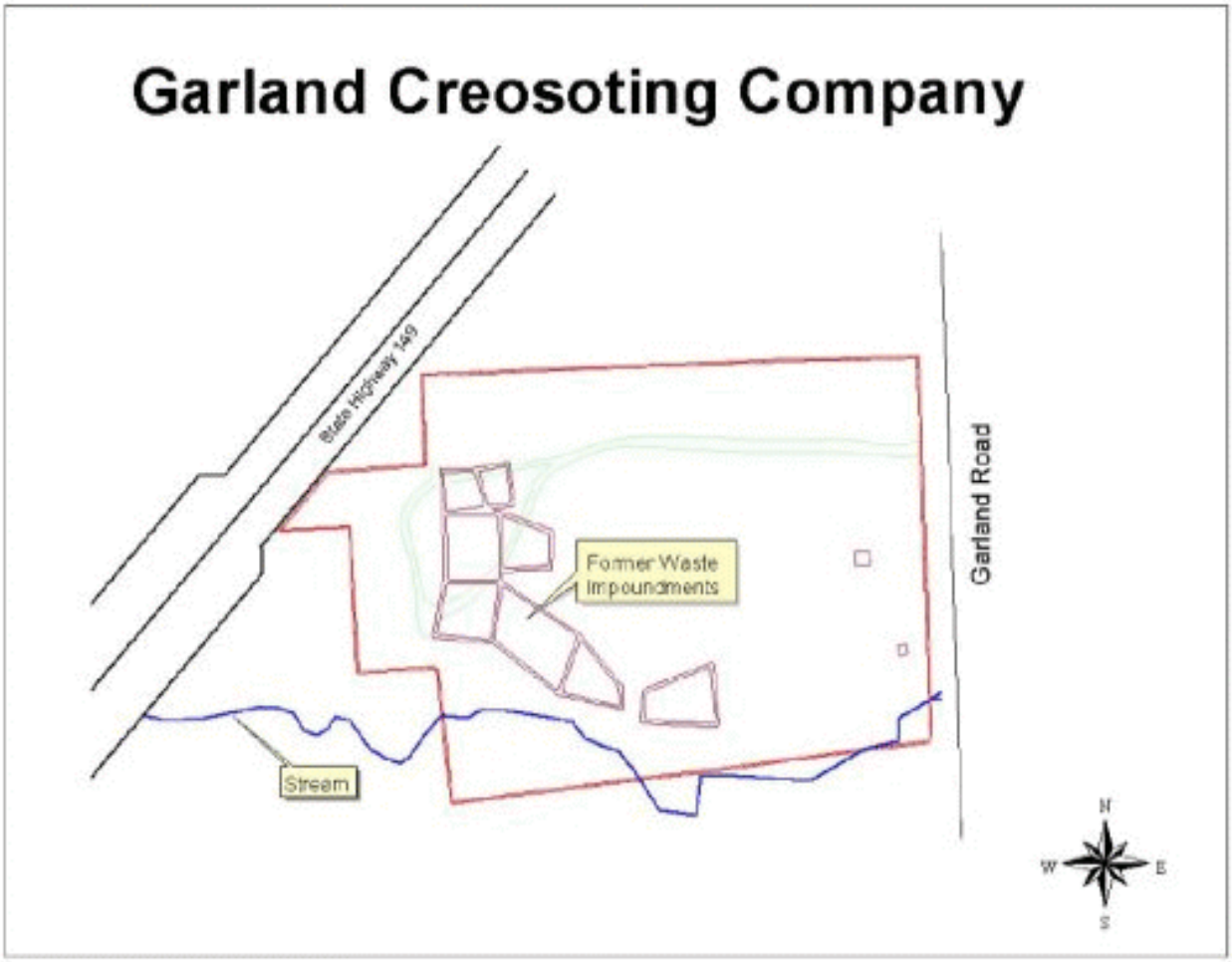
- Free-phase product, believed to be creosote, has been identified based on results from a subsurface investigation. Semivolatile organic compounds identified in the ground water include naphthalene, dibenzofuran, fluorene, phenanthrene, phenol and chlorophenol.

- Sediment samples taken from the intermittent creek and Iron Bridge Creek indicate the presence of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and dibenzofuran. These contaminants are commonly associated with the creosoting process.

Site Assessment and Ranking

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Site HRS Score: 49.10
Proposed Date: July 22, 1999
Final Date: October 22, 1999

Site Map and Diagram



The Remediation Process

Site History:

- The Garland Creosoting Company began manufacturing creosote-treated wood products in 1960 and ceased operating in February 1997 when the facility filed for bankruptcy.
- . Prior to 1985, wastewater generated by Garland Creosoting was treated and discharged to five surface impoundments for evaporation. The facility discontinued using the surface impoundments in 1985 and diverted treated wastewater to the City of Longview wastewater collection and treatment system. The creosoting process produced K001 creosote waste, which is a listed hazardous waste. The impoundments contained K001 bottom sludges from the treatment of wastewater.
- In May 1986, Garland Creosoting decided to close the five surface impoundments used as wastewater evaporation ponds. A subsurface investigation indicated that the ground water in the vicinity of the impoundments was contaminated, and 12 ground water monitoring wells were installed. The subsurface investigation indicated that a release had occurred from the surface impoundments resulting in ground water contamination.
- With the existence of ground water contamination, it was not possible to clean-close the surface impoundments as storage units. Therefore, the surface impoundments were closed as landfills in November 1989. The K001 creosote sludges and contaminated soil residuals were left in the surface impoundments when they were capped.
- On June 28, 1990, Garland Creosoting was issued a permit for post-closure care of the closed surface impoundments. A separate corrective action program was implemented under the closure permit to address the ground water contamination.
- A ground water recovery trench was installed at the facility along the west side and part of the south side of the closed surface impoundments to intercept the plume of dissolved and free-phase creosote constituents. The recovery trench acts as a french drain, which then drains by gravity to a sump located on the southwest side of the surface impoundments. However, when Garland Creosoting filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy on February 18, 1997, the ground water treatment system was shut down.
- During a May 13, 1997, inspection conducted by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), the ground water treatment system was not in operation. A dark oily discharge was observed coming from the recovery trench sump which flowed downhill into the unnamed intermittent creek. The recovery sump is located approximately 60 feet north of the intermittent creek.
- TNRCC initiated an emergency response action in May 1997 to diminish ongoing discharges and stabilize the site. The TNRCC's emergency response cleanup involved pumping the ground water collection sump dry and containerizing recovered ground water on site. Recovered water was treated and discharge to the intermittent creek while the recovered product was transported for waste recycling, reclamation, or disposal.
- EPA placed the Garland site on the NPL on October 22, 1999.
- EPA's Emergency Response Branch completed a removal action in April 2000 which began in November 1999. The actions completed under the removal action included:
  - removal and off-site disposal of all contaminated liquids in tanks and containers;
  - removal of source material from three on-site surface impoundments and process areas
- TNRCC continues to operate a ground water treatment unit on site. The unit pumps ground water from the collection sump and treats it. Treated ground water is released to the unnamed intermittent creek.

Health Considerations:

- The major chemicals present in creosote that can cause harmful effects are polycyclic nuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), phenol and cresols.

- Sediment samples collected from the intermittent creek and Iron Bridge Creek indicate the presence of PAHs and dibenzofuran. Both Iron Bridge Creek and the Sabine River are actively fished, and fish caught in these waters are primarily caught for human consumption.

Other Environmental Risks:

- Wetlands exist along the banks of Iron Bridge Creek and the Sabine River throughout the 15-mile distance considered potentially susceptible to contamination from the Site.
- The paddlefish, a listed threatened species in the State of Texas, inhabits the waters at the confluence of the Sabine River and Iron Bridge Creek, and is also considered potentially susceptible to contamination from the Site.

Record of Decision

No ROD has been signed for the site

Community Involvement

- Community Involvement Plan: March 2000
- Open houses and workshops:
- Original Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting:
- Original ROD Fact Sheet:
- Milestone Fact Sheets/Public Notices: June 11, 2001-RI field work to begin
- EPA Amended Proposed Plan and Public Meeting:
- Citizens on site mailing list:
- Site Repository:

  Longview Public Library
  222 W. Cotton Street
  Longview, Texas 75606
  Hours: Monday/Wednesday/Friday/Saturday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
  Tuesday/Thursday: 10:00 am to 9:00 pm
  Sunday: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Technical Assistance Grant

- Availability Notice: 10/99
- Letters of Intent Received:
- Final Application Received:
- Grant Award:
- Current Status:

Contacts

- **Remedial Project Manager (EPA):** Gary Baumgarten, (214) 665-6749, Mail Code: 6SF-AP
- **State Contact:** (TCEQ) Diane Poteet, (512) 239-2502, Mail Code 143
- **Community Involvement (EPA):** Gary Baumgarten, (214) 665-6749
- **Attorney (EPA):** James Bove, (214) 665-2794, Mail Code: 6RC-S

- **State Coordinator (EPA):** Karen Bond, (214) 665-6682, Mail Code: 6SF-AP
- **Regional Public Liaison (EPA):** Arnold Ondarza, (303) 312-6777
- **Prime Contractor:** Tetra Tech EM Inc.

Present Status and Issues

- EPA's remedial program is conducting a Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the site. The RI/FS will evaluate areas of the site not addressed under the removal action. The first phase of RI field work began in June 2001 and ended in July 2001. The second phase of the RI field work was conducted in October 2002.
- The RI/FS contractor has submitted the Screening of Remedial Alternatives Screening technical memorandum. This document presents an appropriate range of waste management options that will be evaluated further in the Feasibility Study.
- The revised Remedial Investigation Report and Human Health Risk Assessment to EPA have been approved by EPA.
- EPA' removal program completed an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA). The EE/CA evaluated options to prevent continued migration of contaminated ground water into the intermittent creek.
- An Action Memorandum was signed to conduct a non-time critical removal action to prevent continued migration of contaminated ground water into the intermittent creek. An interceptor collection trench (ICT) was installed during the non-time critical removal action to address the movement of contaminated ground water. Construction of the ICT began in February 2003 and was completed in May 2003.

Benefits

- The cleanup of contamination present at the Garland Creosoting Company Superfund Site will ensure the protection of human health and the environment.